

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) An installation for the continuous casting of metals, in which a submerged nozzle, via which molten metal to be cast arrives in a mold from a tundish located thereabove, is surrounded by an annular electromagnetic inductor having a magnetic field that rotates about a casting axis and is intended to force said molten metal to rotate axially therewith, said inductor being of the polyphase traversing-magnetic-field type, said inductor being provided with a pair of poles per phase and each pole of which is formed by an electrical winding wound around an inwardly salient pole tooth that terminates in a pole face placed facing said nozzle, said pole teeth being connected together by an outer peripheral magnetic yoke for closing the magnetic flux, each pole tooth having, at the end of its salient part, extending beyond said electrical winding, a lateral taper that increases the distance by which said pole faces are separated from one another.

8. (Previously presented) The continuous casting installation as claimed in claim 7, wherein said submerged nozzle is a nozzle with lateral outlets.

9. (Previously presented) The continuous casting installation as claimed in claim 7, wherein said inductor includes, on its inner periphery, a heat shield surrounding said nozzle at some distance therefrom.

10. (Previously presented) The continuous casting installation as claimed in claim 7, wherein said annular inductor is formed from two pivoting articulated half-shells.

11. (Previously presented) The continuous casting installation as claimed in claim 7, wherein it further includes a resonant electrical circuit in which said inductor is connected in series with an adjustable capacitor.

12. (Previously presented) The continuous casting installation as claimed in claim 10, wherein said inductor is mounted on the end of support arms for keeping it in position, these support arms being retractable and provided with controlled means that actuate each half-shell so that they pivot.

13. (New) An installation for the continuous casting of metals, in which a submerged nozzle, via which molten metal to be cast arrives in a mold from a tundish located thereabove, is surrounded by an annular electromagnetic inductor having a magnetic field that rotates about a casting axis and is intended to force said molten metal to rotate axially therewith, said inductor being of the polyphase traversing-magnetic-field type, said inductor being provided with a pair of poles per phase and each pole of which is formed by an electrical winding wound around an inwardly salient pole tooth that terminates in a pole face placed facing said nozzle, said pole teeth being connected together by an outer peripheral magnetic yoke for closing the magnetic flux, each salient pole tooth having a non-tapered portion and a tapered portion, said tapered portion being located at the end of said non-tapered portion and extending beyond said electrical winding of said non-tapered portion, said tapered portion increasing the distance by which said pole faces are separated from one another; and

wherein said pole face has an area which is less than an area of a cross-section of said tooth at said non-tapered portion but no less than one-half of said cross-section area.

14. (New) An installation for the continuous casting of metals, in which a submerged nozzle, via which molten metal to be cast arrives in a mold from a tundish located thereabove, is surrounded by an annular electromagnetic inductor having a magnetic field that rotates about a casting axis and is intended to force said molten metal to rotate axially therewith, said inductor being of the polyphase traversing-magnetic-field type, said inductor being provided with a pair of poles per phase and each pole of which is formed by an electrical winding wound around an inwardly salient pole tooth that terminates in a pole face placed facing said nozzle, said pole teeth being connected together by an outer peripheral magnetic yoke for closing the magnetic flux, each salient pole tooth having a non-tapered portion and a tapered portion, said tapered portion being located at the end of said non-tapered portion and extending beyond said electrical winding of said non-tapered portion, said tapered portion increasing the distance by which said pole faces are separated from one another; and wherein said pole tooth has an overall length and said tapered portion has a length that is approximately one-third of said overall length.